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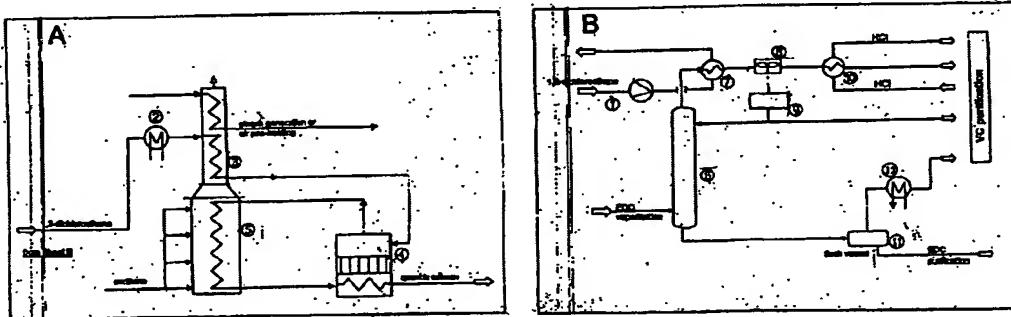
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(54) Title: APPARATUS AND PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF VINYL CHLORIDE BY THERMAL CRACKING OF 1,2-DICHLOROETHANE



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(57) **Abstract:** The invention relates to a process for the production of vinyl chloride by thermal cracking, in which the energy balance, the operating time of the cracking furnace and/or the yield of the reaction are distinctly enhanced in comparison with the prior art. A pressure of from 1.4 to 2.5 MPa is established in the cracking coil at a temperature of from 450 to 550°C and, for pre-heating the EDC (=1,2-dichloroethane) introduced, *inter alia* the waste heat of the gas stream leaving the top of the quench column is utilized.